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In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims 1-34, 36-37, 49, and 85-90 as indicated below:

1. (Currently Amended) A trackable optical disc ~~having readable nonoperational~~, data, comprising:

a first reflective surface having an attribute trackable by an optical disc reader; and
a plurality of data-encoding nonoperational investigational features disposed readably with said trackable attribute, said investigational features arranged in a pattern to thereby function as encoded data.

2. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 1, wherein said ~~nonoperational~~ investigational features and said trackable attribute are readable by the same optical pickup.

3. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 1, wherein said ~~nonoperational~~ investigational features ~~is~~ are readable concurrently with said trackable attribute.

4. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 2, wherein said ~~nonoperational~~ investigational features ~~is~~ are readable concurrently with said trackable attribute.

5. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical disk disc of claim 1, wherein said ~~nonoperational~~ investigational features ~~is~~ are disposed confocally with said trackable attribute.

6. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical disk disc of claim 2, wherein said ~~nonoperational~~ investigational features ~~is~~ are disposed confocally with said trackable attribute.

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7. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical ~~disk~~ disc of claim 3, wherein said ~~nonoperational~~ investigational features is are disposed confocally with said trackable attribute.

8. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical ~~disk~~ disc of claim 4, wherein said ~~nonoperational~~ investigational features is are disposed confocally with said trackable attribute.

9. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical ~~disk~~ disc of claim 1, wherein said trackable attribute is radially disposed.

10. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 9, wherein said trackable attribute includes a wobble groove.

11. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 2, wherein said trackable attribute includes a wobble groove.

12. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 3, wherein said trackable attribute includes a wobble groove.

13. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 4, wherein said trackable attribute includes a wobble groove.

14. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 5, wherein said trackable attribute includes a wobble groove.

15. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 6, wherein said trackable attribute includes a wobble groove.

16. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical ~~disk~~ disc of claim 7, wherein said trackable attribute includes a wobble groove.

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17. (Currently Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 8, wherein said trackable attribute includes a wobble groove.

18. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a signal from said ~~nonoperational~~ a respective investigational feature is detectable as an amplitude variation in the ~~an~~ an HF signal associated with said optical disc reader.

19. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 5, wherein ~~the~~ a signal from said ~~nonoperational~~ a respective investigational feature is detectable as an amplitude variation in the ~~an~~ an HF signal associated with said optical disc reader.

20. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 10, wherein ~~the~~ a signal from said ~~nonoperational~~ a respective investigational feature is detectable as an amplitude variation in the ~~an~~ an HF signal associated with said optical disc reader.

21. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a duration of ~~nonoperational~~ a signal returned from a respective investigational feature provides a substantially quantitative measure of the size of said ~~nonoperational~~ investigational feature in the direction of disc tracking.

22. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 18, wherein ~~the~~ a duration of ~~nonoperational~~ said signal provides a substantially quantitative measure of the size of said ~~nonoperational~~ respective investigational feature in the direction of disc tracking.

23. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 19, wherein ~~the~~ a duration of ~~nonoperational~~ said signal provides a substantially quantitative measure of the size of said ~~nonoperational~~ respective investigational feature in the direction of disc tracking.

24. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 20, wherein ~~the~~ a duration of ~~nonoperational~~ said signal provides a substantially quantitative measure of the size of said ~~nonoperational~~ respective investigational feature in the direction of disc tracking.

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25. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 1, further comprising a first solid substrate having a laser-distal side and a laser-proximal side, ~~wherein both~~ said first reflective surface and said trackable attribute ~~are~~ being disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first solid substrate.

26. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 5, further comprising a first solid substrate having a laser-distal side and a laser-proximal side, ~~wherein both~~ said first reflective surface and said trackable attribute ~~are~~ being disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first solid substrate.

27. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 10, further comprising a first solid substrate having a laser-distal side and a laser-proximal side, ~~wherein both~~ said first reflective surface and said trackable attribute ~~are~~ being disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first solid substrate.

28. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 25, wherein said ~~nonoperational feature~~ plurality of investigational features is disposed on the laser-proximal side of said first reflective surface of said disc substrate.

29. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 26, wherein said ~~nonoperational feature~~ plurality of investigational features is disposed on the laser-proximal side of said first reflective surface of said disc substrate.

30. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 27, wherein said ~~nonoperational feature~~ plurality of investigational features is disposed on the laser-proximal side of said first reflective surface of said disc substrate.

31. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 25, wherein said ~~nonoperational feature~~ plurality of investigational features is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of a light transmissible coating applied to the laser-proximal surface of said first reflective surface.

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32. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 1, wherein said first reflective surface holographically projects a readable image of said trackable attribute when illuminated.

33. (Amended) The trackable optical disc of claim 32, wherein said holographic image is projected confocally to said [nonoperational] investigational features.

34. (Amended) The trackable optical disc claim of 33, wherein said projected tracking attribute is an image of a wobble groove.

35. (Withdrawn)

36. (Amended) An optical disc assembly ~~having readable nonoperational data~~, comprising:

a trackable optical disc according to claim 5_i; and

a laser-refracting cover; ~~wherein said cover further~~ that focuses the laser of said optical disc reader on said disc's first reflective surface of said trackable optical disc.

37. (Amended) An optical disc assembly ~~having readable nonoperational data~~, comprising:

a trackable optical disc according to claim 10_i; and

a laser-refracting cover; ~~wherein said cover further~~ that focuses the laser of said optical disc reader on said disc's first reflective surface of said trackable optical disc.

38-48. (Withdrawn)

49. (Amended) The optical disc assembly of claim 37, wherein said ~~nonoperational~~ investigational features ~~is~~ are disposed upon the laser-distal side of said cover.

50-84. (Withdrawn)

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85. (Amended) The trackable optical ~~disk~~ disc of claim 1, wherein said ~~nonoperational~~ investigational features is include an analyte-specific signal element.

86. (Amended) The trackable optical ~~disk~~ disc of any one of claims 2 - 34, ~~50-63~~, wherein said ~~nonoperational~~ investigational features is include an analyte-specific signal element.

87. (Amended) The trackable optical ~~disk~~ disc of claim 85, wherein said analyte-specific signal element includes an antibody.

88. (Amended) The trackable optical ~~disk~~ disc of claim 85, wherein said analyte-specific signal element includes a nucleic acid.

89. (Amended) The trackable optical ~~disk~~ disc of claim 85, wherein said analyte-specific signal element is a cell.

90. (Amended) The trackable optical ~~disk~~ disc assembly of any one of claims ~~35-49~~, 36, 37, or 49 wherein said ~~nonoperational~~ investigational features is include an analyte-specific signal element.

91-92. (Withdrawn)